

West Virginia Studies Resource Development

Title of Lesson: How does a bill become a law?
Grade level: 8 th Grade
Summary: The students will put the steps of a bill becoming a law in order.
WV CCR Social Studies Standards: SS8.4 Differentiate between the division of powers and responsibilities for each of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of the United States and West Virginia governments, describe the system of checks and balances, and explore local forms of government. Explain the process of how a bill becomes a law in West Virginia.
Students will know and understand (content): Essential Questions What are the steps a bill must take before becoming a law at the state level?
Students will be able to do (skills): List the steps of a bill becoming a law.
Materials & Resources: PowerPoint slides printed out- Attached Computer with a projector
Learning Plan: Prior learning: 1. The teacher will teach the students about bills becoming law in West Virginia. Daily Plan: 1. The Teacher will review the typical way a bill originating in the House of Delegates becomes a law. 2. The teacher will show the video Schoolhouse Rock: America - I'm Just a Bill Music Video and compare the differences of state government and national government. 3. The teacher will assign groups of 6 to 10 students.

4. The teacher will hand out PowerPoint slides on a bill sponsored by Delegate Joe Schmo forbidding homework, in random order.
5. The teacher will explain that those are the steps of a bill becoming a law are out of order and the students will be expected to try to put the steps in order.
6. After about 10 minutes of discussion and debate, the students will stand in front of the class in the order they came up with. They will read the steps aloud and the teacher will tell them if they are right or wrong.
7. After each group presented, the students will gather in a group again to see if they can get it right on the 2nd attempt. If not, the class will explain the parts that are out of order and place them in the correct order.
8. The governor will show the PowerPoint (attached) to go over the correct sequence.

Checking for Understanding:

Class discussion- the teacher will review the correct steps using the PowerPoint. The teacher will answer questions that the students have.

These steps will be added to the Unit test on State Government and reviewed daily.

Extended Questions:

1. The steps given are the conventional way for a bill to become a law. What are other steps that can be taken for a bill becoming law?
2. If the bill is vetoed by the governor, what can the legislature do to override the veto?

Accommodations:

This is a group lesson. The teacher will place students together with a variety of learning levels.